PLANT FACT SHEET

Desmoncus cirrhiferus A. H. Gentry & Zardini

GENUS *Desmoncus* **FAMILY** Arecaceae

COMMON NAMES Matamba, Bora negra

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit

DESCRIPTION

A spiny palm. It has a cluster of stems. These are 5 m tall and 1-2 cm across. They are green. The leaf sheaths are hairy and also have short spines which curve backwards. The leaf axis is 1.7 m long. There are 5-11 leaflets on each side. They are oval and 20 cm long. The tips end on long slender coiled tails 11 cm long. The flowering stalks have 15-19 short flowering branches. The fruit are oval and 1.5-2 cm long by 1-1.5 cm across. They are red. The fruit are edible.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in coastlands and up to 800 m altitude.

NOTES

There are 7 Desmoncus species.

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/ad445ee9-5f9a-4f36-a89d-c6925eb6543d